



NORTHBRIDGE SAFETY COMMITTEE

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September 20, 2023

Northbridge Board of Selectmen
Northbridge Memorial Town Hall
7 Main Street,
Whitinsville MA 01588

Dear Board of Selectmen:

The Northbridge Safety Committee met **WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 20, 2023** at the Police Department. In attendance: Timothy Labrie, Jamie Luchini, Gary Bechtholdt, George Murray, David White, Joan Fournier, Anthony Benedetto, Michael Dempsey, Molly Obendorf and Carol Mueller

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Timothy Labrie called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon motion duly made (Murray) Safety Committee voted to uphold the meeting minutes of July 19, 2023. All in favor.

III. CORRESPONDENCE & COMMUNICATIONS

- The Northbridge Board of Selectman voted to accept the recommendations of the Safety Committee as outlined in the minutes of May 17, 2023.
- Request for extended sidewalk -- 175 Linwood Street by Foxy Travel. Resident reports an Uxbridge project to replace sidewalks on the east side of Linwood Street ended at the Post Office. Request was made to have Northbridge finish the sidewalks leading up to where Foxy Travel parks their buses. Jamie Luchini will look into who owns the property at the easement and where the town line ends. He will do a site visit including taking pictures. This will be tabled until the next meeting. Gary Bechtholdt motioned, George Murray second, all in favor.

- Michael Dempsey (Chairman of Northbridge Parks & Rec / Youth Coordinator of youth soccer association) brought forward concerns of parking at the Northbridge Elementary School during soccer games. Youth soccer was allotted field times Mon-Fri 5pm – 7pm and Saturdays 9am – 1pm. Parents have been asked to park in the designated parking lots and walk to the field. They have been ignoring requests and parking along the side of the driveway and fire lanes. His concern is for the people walking and emergency vehicles having access. George Murray mentioned the field they are using was only supposed to be a practice field when it was first presented. Timothy Labrie suggested the police department have an officer respond to monitor parking violations, have Mr. Dempsey put up temporary signs (traffic cones) to prevent people parking along the driveway and this will be revisited at the next meeting.

IV. WALMART, BUILDING ADDITION (ONLINE ORDER PICK UP): SITE PLAN REVIEW

Molly Obendorf, PE Bohler Engineering presented a site plan for 100 Valley Parkway (AP1-119). Safety Committee reviewed the proposed 8,000 square-foot building addition to Walmart for pick-up of online orders. Molly Obendorf reviewed overall site layout, location of planned addition (westerly front of building), parking area, and vehicular/pedestrian circulation. Molly Obendorf reviewed anticipated hours of online pick-up (8AM to 8PM), relocation of two (2) light poles within parking lot and confirmed for George Murray parking access aisle will remain 2-way (30-feet wide). David White noted the building addition will need a sprinkler system, where additional information shall be required for review as part of the Building Permit application.

Timothy Labrie motioned to approve the site plan as presented. George Murray second. All in favor.

V. OLD/ NEW BUSINESS

- A.) Shining Rock Community speed bump request. Jamie Luchini has left numerous messages and emails to the town council to find out the legality of placing speed bumps on a public road. As of this time he has no answer from them.

Jamie Luchini stated he looked into the cost. Speed humps would cost a couple thousand a piece. The area where the bumps would go would be difficult for drainage and would cause more issues.

Dave White questioned if a rumble strip would work. Jamie stated it would also be a safety issue especially in the winter with sand and ice.

Timothy Labrie reports the police department placed a speed monitor on Clubhouse Lane on the light pole by the cart crossing at hole #10. This area is a long straightway. Sign was placed on 9/14/23 and taken down on 9/19/23.

Average speed coming into town was 28 mph. Average speed outgoing was also 28 mph.

Number of cars incoming was 2658.

Number of cars outgoing was 2767.

Highest speed incoming was 42 mph.

Highest speed outgoing was 40 mph.

Timothy Labrie stated based on the speed monitoring data he does not feel it needs speed bumps.

Jamie Luchini voted to NOT recommend speed bumps based on the data provided by the police department. David White second. All in favor.

B.) Summit Street- parking restriction request.

Timothy Labrie and Jamie Luchini did a couple site visits at different times of day. It was not recommended to restrict parking on one side of the road.

Gary Bechtholdt wanted to know how wide the road was.

Jamie Luchini confirmed the road was 27 feet.

Joan Fournier requested "no parking between signs" be placed on the curve in the road.

Jamie Luchini will re-visit to look at the line of site at the curve in the road and make a recommendation at the next meeting. George Murray requested the residents who live at the curve also be notified of the next meeting to voice their opinions. George Murray motioned, all in favor.

C.) 151 Purgatory Road – signage, speed and vegetation.

Carol Mueller of 151 Purgatory Road voiced her concerns about pulling out of her driveway. She stated there are no blind driveway signs posted in either direction. She requested "blind driveway" signs be placed, some sort of blinking light to slow drivers down, re-curve the road to make it easier to pull out of the driveway and/or have the town cut back the trees/brush on the side of the road.

Ms. Mueller also questioned the stability of the guardrails in the area. Jamie Luchini stated he could add the guard rail replacement to the DPW's list for future projects.

Jamie Luchini requested this be tabled until the next meeting so he could do a site visit.

All in favor.

D.) Jamie Luchini confirmed the blinking lights on Crescent Street have been installed and the crosswalks were re-painted.

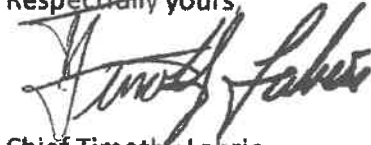
E.) David White stated St. Patricks Church came to him asking for extra lighting on East Street at St. Patricks Church due to night classes in session. Will be added to the next meeting.

Next meeting is scheduled for October 25, 2023 @ 10:00 am.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Timothy Labrie motioned the adjournment of the meeting at 11:18 a.m. all in favor.

Respectfully yours,



Chief Timothy Labrie

Northbridge Police Department

CHAIRMAN, NORTHBRIDGE SAFETY COMMITTEE

-LMG

Cc: Northbridge Town Clerk

Northbridge Town Manager

Lt. John Ouillette /file

